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- 1. Personal observations from childhood caused me to become anti-Communist. When I saw that only a select few lived a luxurious life while the majority of the population suffered, I became more and more vigorously opposed to Communism. I realized that the Soviet regime as a whole was unsatisfactory and that all propaganda was a complete lie.
- 2. The Soviet invasion in 1939 is not too vivid; however, I have many unpleasant memories of the invasion in 1944-1945. The invaders entering Radom killed, raped, pillaged and stole. General feeling of the Poles was that the Soviet invasion would be temporary, since the Soviets came to free Poland from the Germans. Only the owners of large estates, factories, farms and those formerly connected with the Polish Government were primary targets for the Communists. In addition those suspected of being anti-Communist were constantly molested by the regime. During elections these anti-Communists were placed in jail and held until the elections were over.
- 3. Immediately after World War II, schools in Poland were free to teach religion, ancient history, history of Poland and English in some gymnasiums. In 1948 there was a notable decline in religious instruction. The history of Poland was completely rewritten (kings of Poland were appropriately named as fascists, capitalists and Communists). In school the priest would ask his pupils who among them attended church on Sunday. Sons whose fathers were Communists would reply that it was none of the priest's concern. In most cases the son would relate to his father what transpired in school. The father in turn would make a report to the Party. As a result orders were given to remove crosses from all classrooms and religious instructions were discontinued.
- 4. For a time teachers resisted Communism. Directors of education were pre-World War II Poles who insisted that directed political views and teachings could not and would not be taught in the schools. These directors were removed and replaced with Party members. Special schools were set up by the Party for teachers who learned Party functions and then were placed in schools to teach. Teachers who resisted Communism taught what they thought was correct, however, they were also replaced. Many teachers joined the Communist Party to maintain their position and eventually fell in line with Party teachings.

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5. In 1945 a minor attack not against the Catholic Church but against the Catholic clergy occurred. First attacks were directed against the people who worked for the priests, secondly against the large estates owned by the priests, thirdly against communication with Rome, lastly against sermons which mentioned the West or a free Poland. Churches were never closed. Whenever a priest was imprisoned a so-called "patriot" priest would take his place immediately.

6. The people of Poland believed that the Pope was pro-German because they saw pictures which showed him blessing the German soldiers on their way to the battle-front. Most of the population felt that even though Poland was predominantly Catholic the Pope still favored Germany.

7. People of Poland have faith and are awaiting the day when the US will liberate Poland. They are positive that the US is the only country able to accomplish this liberation. Communist propaganda that the US is organizing a German army and air force to attack and plunder all of Poland is not generally accepted, however, should such an attack take place the Poles would fight to protect their homeland.

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